

the chronicle

Pedal power

Boom time for cycling as more take to two wheels

Page 4

Number beating cancer is on rise

THE number of patients beating cancer in the Black Country and Staffordshire is rising – and the best area for survival rates is the Dudley area, with a rate of 67 per cent.

But according to experts, too many people are still not getting diagnosed quickly enough.

Since 1996, cancer survival rates across the region have jumped by more than six per cent. In 2009, 62 per cent of patients survived the disease.

After Dudley, Walsall's survival rate was 65.9 per cent.

In South Staffordshire the survival rate was 66.4 per cent and it was 66.6 per cent in Wolverhampton.

Dr Steve Cartwright, medical director for the Black Country Cluster of Primary Care Trusts, said cancer care in the region is as good as other parts of the country and that improving survival rates was a priority.

He added: "Too many patients are not getting diagnosed quickly enough."

"Encouraging people with symptoms to seek medical advice earlier is crucial to improving survival rates.

"Quicker diagnosis means patients can begin treatment when their cancer is at a less advanced stage and that can make all the difference."

Chicago's to return

NATIONAL bar chain Chicago's is returning to Stourbridge with a new venue next year.

Bosses are investing £500,000 in the venture and say the new bar in Ryemarke will create 30 jobs when it opens before Easter.

The last Chicago Rock Cafe in the town centre closed in 2010. Atmosphere Bars and Clubs, which bought some of the Chicago Rock Cafe sites will take over the unit currently home to the Que Pasa restaurant.



Christmas past

How they celebrated in those good old days

Page 6



Hurrell rules

Robbie's giant display helps Saxons to win

Page 28



ACTION VOW ON BLACKSPOT ROAD

COUNCIL chiefs have vowed to take action on a "deathtrap" road in Stourbridge after a spate of crashes in which cars have spun off the carriageway.

Drivers are calling for Oldnall Road, Wollescote, to be relaid amid fears that someone could be seriously hurt or even killed.

Motorists say it is difficult to control cars on the road as the surface is "treacherous", even at a low speed.

One local resident Sean Windsor, aged 43, was involved in a smash there – and he says he has seen more than 20 incidents in the last two months.

And on December 10 an 18-year-old woman driving a Astra Clio lost control there, rolled over and into a field.

Mr Windsor, a builder, says action needs to be taken "before someone is killed".

Danger

Dudley Council bosses said they were aware of problems at the site and were looking into what measures could be taken.

Most of the crashes have happened at a bend in the road just after the junction with Foxcote Lane.

Mr Windsor, father of three, of the Queensway, Wollescote, said an anti-skid surface should be laid by Dudley Council.

He said: "I was driving over the brow of the hill when I saw a parked car with its hazard lights on.

"I was only doing 30mph and there was no danger but

By Adam Burling

as I went to steer round the bend I just lost control and spun off the road on to the pavement.

"The driver in the parked car ran over to help me and it turned out the exact same thing had just happened to him.

"Since then I am aware of at least 20 accidents in the same location.

"It seems so obvious that something needs to be done, and it has become a bit of an issue for me now.

"It's a complete deathtrap.

Councillor Patrick Harley, cabinet member for transportation, said: "The issue has been brought to our attention and we are currently investigating it, which will involve carrying out tests on the highway.

"Meanwhile on a general note, we would remind motorists to drive with extra care in the current cold and wintry conditions."

Armed raid bid at shop

AN armed youth threatened workers at a shop in Stourbridge with a knife in an attempt to rob the premises.

The young would-be thief threatened the female shop assistants at the One-Stop store in Turners Lane in Amblecote. He fled when the alarm was raised.

He was white man, slimly built, 5ft 8in tall, in his late teens to early 20s, and had a Birmingham accent.

Robert steamed up with Jubilee hope



Robert Merlyn Farwell at his workshop with his replica of the Stourbridge Lion

AN inventor is hoping his replica of the legendary locomotive the Stourbridge Lion, will feature in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in London next year.

Robert Merlyn Farwell has made a scaled-down version of the locomotive, the first to run in America.

The original was built at the town's Foster and Rastick works in 1828.

Mr Farwell, aged 65, spent three weeks making his replica, and he has applied to take part in a parade of more than 1,000 boats on the Thames for the jubilee on June 3.

Mr Farwell, whose workshop is in Parkfield Road, Stourbridge, wants to take the Lion on a boat.

He said: "It would be a great way to promote the skills and industry of this region and it would increase the profile of the Stourbridge Lion, which a lot of people are unaware of. Getting a boat shouldn't be a problem, so I'm just hoping I get permission from the authority."

Mr Farwell is now planning a full-size replica of the train, which he wants to display at the end of the track in Stourbridge Town station.

A father-of-five, he spends hours each day in his workshop. He has also been a TV extra in shows such as Boon.

He set up a business, Wizard Merlyn's Costume Hire in Church Street, Stourbridge, in the 1980s.

He also had a spell as a children's entertainer at seaside resorts in the 1970s.

Teenage thug is locked up for attack

A YOUNG thug who repeatedly punched a girl in the face and stole her bag after following her at night, has been locked up for two and a half years.

Richard North followed the 17-year-old as she walked through Mary Stevens Park and into New Farm Road, Stourbridge on September 27, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The 19-year-old attacked the girl, punching her at least five times, said prosecutor Paul Dhami.

The victim also heard Kirsty Askin, the 18-year-old cousin of the attacker, laughing, the court heard.

The pair and a 17-year-old youth, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had been following the girl, said Mr Dhami.

North, previously of Barn Close, Stourbridge but now of no fixed address, had committed 21 previous offences.

North, who admitted robbery, wept when sent to a young offenders' institution.

Askin of Russells Hall Road, Dudley who admitted watching the robbery and accepting make up taken in the crime, pleaded guilty to handling stolen property and was given a two year community order and three month curfew.

The 17-year-old admitted assisting an offender and was given a youth rehabilitation order and a curfew.

New year's invitation

AN invitation has been issued by a local library for families to help see the new year in.

The new year themed activity is being held on December 31 at Kingswinford Library, from 10am to 11am.

It's a free event but people are advised to book in advance as places are limited.

For information log on to the website www.dudley.gov.uk/libraries

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CONTENTS

Memory Lane	6
Letters	16
Television	18-21
Property	22

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Scheme for 200 homes gets council's backing

A SCHEME for more than 200 homes to be built as the next stage of a project to regenerate a Dudley estate has received unanimous backing from councillors.

Proposals for stages two and three of works on the former North Priory estate were approved by the council's development committee.

The meeting on December 12 took just minutes to give its approval.

The 214 properties will be a mixture of two, three and four bedroom homes and will also feature some two-bedroom flats.

The scheme forms part of a £37million project to redevelop the estate between Birmingham New Road and Priory Road.

Homes have already been constructed in the first phase.

The properties will form a 50-50 split between homes for sale and affordable houses to rent.

The new homes will have the same external appearance as properties which have already been built at the site.

Members of the planning committee were also told that an initial objection to the proposal from the Environment Agency had now been withdrawn.

And developers Keepmoat Homes and Bromford Hous-

ing are also set to apply to the secretary of state to divert a public right of way in the area to improve access around the site.

The first residents have already moved into the first 20 homes which were built there under the earlier phase.

Committee member Councillor Colin Banks said: "This is the largest planning application that has come before this committee in a long time.

"It can only be a good thing for the regeneration of Dudley."

Grant

His comments were greeted with cries of approval from other committee members and the scheme was unanimously agreed by members.

Work on the £11m first phase of the 314-home project started last year.

Construction followed a £5.5m grant from the Homes and Community Agency.

Residents include a mix of newcomers to the area and people who used to live on the former North Priory estate.

And developers Keepmoat Homes and Bromford Hous-

Cracking prize for butchers



Peter and Adam Comery-Lang celebrate their awards

A FATHER and son butchers' team in Stourbridge are celebrating after scooping a series of top awards at a regional competition.

Peter Comery-Lang, aged 62, and his 34-year-old son Adam from Langs of Wollaston picked up eight gold and three silver medals at the English Winter Fair held at the Stafford showground.

Adam said he has been in the business since he was 13 and set up the shop, based on the Bridgnorth Road, two years ago.

"I decided this year to start entering competitions, this was only the third I have ever done," he said.

Among his winning entries was a pork pie called Christmas Cracker which was named by his eight-year-old daughter Tamzin.

Featuring sausage meat, turkey, ox tongue, cranberry sauce and pork pie meat, it scored an impressive 99 out of 100.

Mr Comery-Lang, of Sedgley, orders the meat from farms which are based in the area.

He said: "It is something that you aim towards, to get a prize like this is fantastic."

Quarry's 7am plan rejected

PLANS for lorries to enter and leave a Kingswinford quarry earlier in the morning have been thrown out following protests from residents.

People living near Ketley Quarry in Kingswinford, were annoyed when WCL Quarries submitted proposals to change current operating rules.

Presently, loaded vehicles cannot enter or leave the site before 8am and unloaded vehicles are not allowed before 7.30am.

The firm wanted to change the restriction so all vehicles could use the site from 7am which residents said would cause major disruption and noise problems.

At a meeting of Dudley Council's planning committee on December 12, members refused permission and said existing operating hours would remain.

Councillor Peter Miller told members of the committee that many elderly people and young families lived in the area and it would disrupt their sleep patterns.

The firm wanted to change the times to avoid rush hour traffic.

Pony is rescued

A PONY had to be rescued by firefighters after it fell at a farm near Stourbridge.

It became trapped in fencing in Vicarage Road, Cleint, on the afternoon of December 13. Firefighters and a vet freed the 30-year-old pony.

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Health fears over ponies tethered at beauty spot

TWO underweight ponies were removed from a Dudley beauty spot by RSPCA officers following concerns over their welfare.

Inspectors from the charity visited Fens Pool Nature Reserve, in Brierley Hill, to carry out an assessment of the animals.

A vet was called following concerns about two of the ponies which were underweight.

Both were taken into possession by the police and removed by the charity to a private boarding facility for treatment. Officials from the RSPCA said the owner of one of the ponies had been identified.

The charity is trying to trace the owner of the second pony, a female chestnut mare, and has asked the public for help.

Anyone with information is asked to call the RSPCA's national cruelty and advice line on 0300 1234 999.

Officials from the charity have been monitoring the park following concern over the welfare of horses there.

Neck

Talks are already under way with Dudley Council amid concerns that some of the animals could be suffering from "strangles" – abscesses in the neck.

RSPCA Inspector Jackie Hickman, who carried out the assessment of the animals, said: "The mare is thought to be approximately five years old. She was found on a long chain tether which had to be cut by the police.

"I would also urge anyone locally who knows the owner of this pony to please get in touch."

"Horses are moved around so you do not see the same animals every time you attend," she added.

"We are concerned about the risk of strangles in the area and urge horse owners to call out their vets if their animals become unwell."

"Doing nothing, leaving their animal to suffer is simply not an option and could lead to prosecution."

From pumps to pedals



Pedal power – members of Stourbridge Cycling Club on the road

CYCLING clubs are seeing membership numbers rise as soaring petrol prices see more and more people ditch their cars.

Cycle shop owners including Kevin Anson who runs Lower Gornal-based repair business Pedal Sense, in Ruiton Street, said they had seen an increase in the numbers of people taking up cycling. The 45-year-old said: "It's costing too much to run a car."

Stourbridge Cycling Club has reached the 200 member mark, a first in its 47-year history. Membership secretary Bryan Hedges said the number had grown from 150 since the start of the year.

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Tribute paid to man who fled Communist regime

Marathon man's new pal



Marathon man 'Blind Dave' Heeley makes a fuss of guide dog Seamus
MARATHON runner 'Blind Dave' Heeley has a new addition to the family - latest guide dog Seamus.

The German Shepherd is Dave's fourth dog and has been settling into his home in Oak Road, West Bromwich. Dave, aged 54, who is married to Deb, and has three daughters, said: "He has been welcomed. Everybody who has come to

the house has taken to him, he is a lovely rogue."

Dave said it was a relief to have a guide dog after his last, Wicksie, was retired six months ago. He added: "You can't go out when you want and I was having to rely on people."

Dave's fundraising projects include seven marathons on seven continents in seven days.

A GREAT-GRANDFATHER who fled a Communist regime and later set up home in Stourbridge, has died at the age of 83.

Alexander Fojan and brother George "grabbed everything they had" in Yugoslavia before heading to Britain in 1948. They worked at the Jubilee Colliery in West Bromwich and mines in Cannock in exchange for asylum.

Alexander married wife Joan in 1954 and the couple moved to Pedmore in 1959.

A talented sportsman, he was a well-known face around the pubs of Stourbridge and beyond as a regular dominoes and darts player. Mrs Fojan said he would buy anyone a drink and was always first to put his hand in his pocket. "That's just the way he was," she said. "He worked hard and played hard."

"He was just the most wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather that anyone could ever wish for. He had a heart of gold and we will all miss him terribly."

Champion

Mrs Fojan, who also leaves three children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, passed away peacefully at Russells Hall Hospital on December 1 after a long illness.

A keen West Bromwich Albion fan who had trials with Stoke City, Mr Fojan was also one of the region's top table-tennis players in his youth and was Smethwick League champion in 1955/56.

Mrs Fojan, of Cherry Tree Court, Pedmore, said that despite her husband's Yugoslavian heritage he was patriotic and became a British citizen in February 1993.

After the mines and a spell on the railways, Mr Fojan worked in die-cast industry foundries, including Deans in Stourbridge. His funeral took place at Stourbridge Crematorium on December 13, with the wake afterwards at The Hadcroft pub in Grange Lane, Stourbridge.

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Christmas party at Smethwick's Rolfe Street Baths



Mayoral visit at The Royal with Santa



WM Pugh Butchers in Smethwick displaying a feast of festive food



Margaret Millington steams the Christmas pudding on a range as people would have done in the early 1900s

Orange and coal in your stocking if you're lucky

Black Country Living Museum's Fiona Carding looks at how the region's families would have celebrated Christmas in the 1900s.

IF YOU'RE having to tighten your purse strings this Christmas then spare a thought for your great-grandparents who would have worked up until lunchtime on Christmas day and would have been lucky to find an orange and a piece of coal at the bottom of their stockings.

Children were at the centre of the festive celebrations, as they are now, but festivities focused on food rather than giving presents.

Many mothers started paying a penny a week into the sweet shop 12 weeks before Christmas, putting aside sweets for children's stockings. These would have included things like sugar mice and pigs, sugar fancies, sticks of rainbow rock and liquorice pipes.

Turkey and tinsel were off the

MEMORY LANE

by Fiona Carding

menu in a typical Black Country household and instead a plump cockerel, roast rabbit or pork would be the special meal of the day.

Chicken or pork would be hung in front of the range oven fire and the dripping fat would be caught in a tray below.

Some of the fat would be used for gravy and the rest would be saved for pastry making and to spread on bread for sandwiches. The meat would be served with homegrown potatoes and vegetables in season.

The first preparations for Christmas would be the Christmas pudding which would be made on Stir-Up Sunday (the last Sunday of Advent). It would be made with

plums, possibly a few sultanas, suet, eggs and spices like nutmeg and cinnamon. A spiced-up version of bread pudding was used as a cheap substitute for Christmas pudding. Families would put a sixpence (2.5p) or threepenny bit (1.5p) in the pudding for luck.

Few working class families had a Christmas tree in the early 1900s. Instead decorations were made of holly or wooden hoops from butter barrels and trimmed with coloured paper.

Christmas was far less commercial and more charitable too. Donations from benevolent trusts ensured even the poorest weren't forgotten. In 1904 Christmas in West Bromwich workhouse began with carols played on a gramophone and breakfast served in the decorated dining hall, followed by a Christmas Service conducted by the Chaplain.



Volunteers Margaret and Les Millington tucking into a typical Christmas lunch at the Black Country Living Museum

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Plea for support in fight to save threatened home

Campaigners have appealed for more residents' support in their fight to save a close-threatened care home in Kingswinford.

Dudley Council leader Councillor Les Jones has said the authority will look again at plans to shut New Bradley Hall, in Compton Drive.

But the protest group set up to fight the closure says this decision does not mean they have won their battle.

Campaign leader Mac Scott MBE said it was critical that people continued with the fundraising drive to help the group's legal battle to fight the planned closure through the courts.

He added: "We call upon the people of Dudley to make their vote count and to demand that any one standing will not get their vote until they make a commitment to keep New Bradley Hall open and allow innocent old people to live in the home that they love."

More than 5,000 people have objected to the council's proposals to shut the home, along with three others, by 2014.

The council will hold a consultation into its original decision to close the home under a shake up of adult social care in the borough.

Results from the consultation are expected to come back before cabinet next July.

He added: "We call upon the people of Dudley to make their vote count and to demand that any one standing will not get their vote until they make a commitment to keep New Bradley Hall open and allow innocent old people to live in the home that they love."

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MORE THAN 200,000 library books are still out in the Black Country and Staffordshire, with fines running into the tens of thousands of pounds.

There are almost 100,000 books missing in Staffordshire, 57,820 in Sandwell and 33,348 in Dudley. A total of 27,155 are overdue in Walsall and 12,482 in Wolverhampton. In Dudley, £49,880.62 is owed in outstanding fines. The council fines people 15p a day for late returns up to a maximum of £4.35.

One outstanding book is a Volvo owner's manual, which should have been returned almost

eight years ago in January 2004. Councillor Adrian Turner, cabinet member for housing, libraries and adult learning, said: "There are no plans to change the current process in Dudley."

"In these difficult times we want to encourage people to use libraries as they are a great free resource and work with them to raise awareness of how easy it is to return or renew books and avoid fines."

Figures released under Freedom of Information Act show that of the 99,084 titles missing in Staffordshire, a total of 11,838 are from the Burton library.

The council fines people 18p a day for overdue

books up to a maximum of £6.48. Pat Corfield, Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for communities and culture, said: "It's disappointing there are so many books overdue but the most people are responsible."

Councillor Anthony Harris, Walsall Council's cabinet member for leisure and culture, said most overdue books were returned within a couple of days. "Of the remaining items most are returned after the customer receives the first reminder notice."

In Sandwell two customers have five books which were due back in 1993 including John Steinbeck's *The Pearl*.

Paul's virtual meeting



Paul Hill on screen with, top, Roger Timmins and, bottom left, head Russell Hinton and Paul Roberts ready for the governors' meeting at the school

A GOVERNOR at a Kingswinford school took part in a meeting – despite being in America.

With the help of school staff, Paul Hill organised a video link between the Brier School and New York.

It is believed to be the first time that a school in the borough has staged such a link.

Mr Hill, who works for Cisco Systems, is vice-chairman of the governors' board and wanted to be involved as the full governors' meeting is held only once a term.

Attraction sets new record for visitors

An historic tourist attraction near Stourbridge is reporting a record year with more than 12,600 visitors in eight months.

Volunteers at Kinver's rock houses say the last season was the best ever for the attraction, which is run by the National Trust.

Figures released today show that 12,618 people visited the site this year. And the combined income for the houses and the cafe on the summit of Holy Austin Rock stands at £28,878 – an all-time high.

Preparations are under way for next season, which begins in March, with volunteers hoping to build on this year's success. Plans have been made to increase the opening hours at the rock houses, giving people more time to visit the site.

The site will be open from 2pm to 4pm on Thursdays and Fridays and 11am to 4pm at weekends.

A drive has been launched by the trust to attract up to 100 more volunteers to help run the site. Custodian Mike Parker said the move is designed to boost visitor numbers even further. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Laura Broadhurst on 01562 712823.

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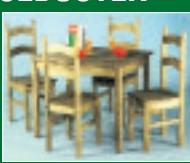
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Work to start soon on £10m link for tourist attractions

WORK on a £10million town centre development that will link two popular Dudley tourist attractions is to start in the new year.

Ground work will begin next month on the project across 494 acres of land around the Castle Hill area of Dudley.

The scheme will see a joint access created to Dudley Zoo, the Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Trust from Tipton Road.

In addition, a new arrival centre will be built among a number of other projects.

A road will first be created to link the museum and zoo.

Dudley's regeneration chief, Councillor Angus Adams, said: "Building is likely to start over the

next few weeks. We will do some work to clear the site and make it ready for building work to begin."

The plans to link Dudley Zoo and the Black Country Living Museum have been in the pipeline for years.

But they were held back by nearby roadworks taking place at the Burnt Tree junction and the building of the new Tesco there.

Funding

With an agreement to provide £4.5m of European funding secured, plans are being drawn up to start work on the link road.

The road will run from the former Trad-ing Post premises in Castle Hill to the back of the museum in nearby Tipton Road.

It will also provide access to Dudley Canal Trust which is located at the back of the museum.

The scheme also includes a large car park which would be shared by the assorted attractions.

The £10m scheme will see the creation of a new hotel and shopping precinct on vacant land next to the proposed site of the new Dudley Archives building.

It is hoped that the project will pave the way for dozens of new businesses and turn the district into a tourism and leisure hub.

The foundation of this hub will be created with the building of a shared arrival point and car park for visitors heading to the area's three attractions.

Borough bucks trend as jobless queues shorten

DUDLEY and the Black Country is bucking the trend in the face of latest grim unemployment figures, which have revealed a record number of people out of work.

Jobless queues fell slightly in the borough.

They were down by 95 in Dudley last month and numbers also fell in the neighbouring areas of Sandwell, Wolverhampton and Walsall.

It comes as new figures reveal the country's total of people out of work rose by 128,000 to 2.64million - a 17-year high.

Across the West Midlands as a whole, unemployment was also on the rise, by 4,000 to 243,000.

The regional unemployment rate is now 9.2 per cent, compared to a national average of 8.3 per cent. Nationwide, the jobless total is now worse than at any time since 1994. A series of grim figures delivered an additional

pre-Christmas blow to the Government, with youth and female unemployment showing big rises and the number of people claiming jobseeker's allowance increasing for the ninth month in a row.

Unemployment among 16 to 24-year-olds increased by 54,000 to 1.03m, the highest since records began in 1992.

The Office for National Statistics also reported that women's unemployment increased by 45,000 to 1.1m.

Latest bad news on the jobs front came when troubled tour operator Thomas Cook announced the closure of 200 stores and the shedding of more than 600 jobs over the next two years. The group has 1,300 branches across the UK, including Dudley High Street and Merry Hill.

However, supermarket Morrisons is to open 25 new stores next year; creating 7,000 jobs.

Teachers' farewell



Sue Homer and Angela Newton with pupils at The Kingswinford School

TWO TEACHERS who have chalked up decades of years in the industry between them are bidding a fond farewell to pupils and colleagues as they retire.

Sue Homer and Angela Newton left The Kingswinford School last Friday. Mrs Homer, aged 60, has taught PE at the school since 1972 and has also organised extra-curricular activities including netball and hockey teams.

She said some of her fondest memories were of cruises and skiing trips she enjoyed with staff and students.

After retiring she hopes to spend more time with her family and is looking forward to having more opportunities to navigate her barge on the waterways.

Her friend Mrs Newton, 55, has been a member of the English department since 1991 and head of Year 10 for five years. She said one of her highlights was leading the production of Pirates of Penzance in the early 1990s.

She also ran two school magazines, as well as organising a series of residential trips to Ingentre Hall in Stafford.

Her plans for retirement include a River Nile cruise with her husband Steve.

Get ready to splash in the pools again

TWO POOLS at a popular leisure centre in Stourbridge which have been shut since last month while repair works were carried out are set to reopen in January.

The leisure pool, which features a wave machine and is used by families, and the 25-metre pool at Crystal Leisure Centre have been closed since November 21 while the £474,000 repairs are carried out.

Both are due to reopen early in the new year once the work to replace the air handling units is carried out.

Councillor David Stanley, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: "Work is progressing well at Crystal Leisure Centre and on schedule to be completed in January next year."

"The old air handling units have been removed and the new ones are now being constructed on site. We apologise to people for the pools being out of action during this essential work, but the rest of the centre is open as normal."

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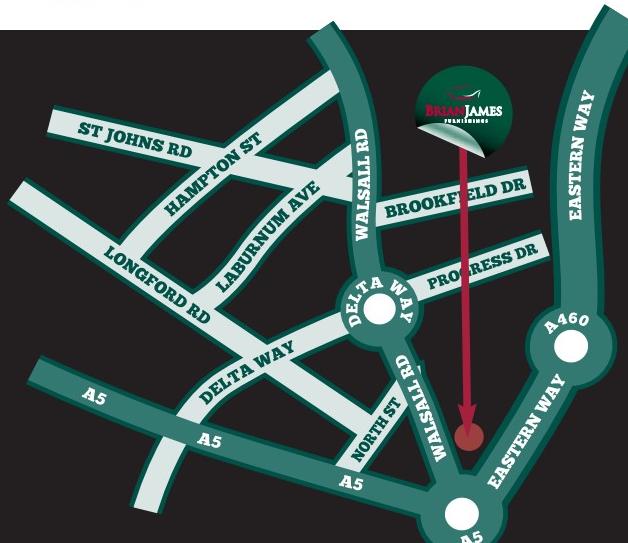
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Just how many MPs do we really need?

PAT McFADDEN rightly argues that local community identity is a key issue in looking at the way we wish to be democratically represented.

What we are missing in this debate is the need to question the functions and the composition and size of the Westminster Parliament.

What is the case for 600 or 200 MPs?

It is argued we still need 600 so that all constituencies are roughly the same size in terms of voters and that they maintain the local link.

Clearly not all constituencies will generate the same amount of work and

we need to question why MPs should be spending much of their time and taxpayers' resources on local issues.

We all know that people do not stay still, they move around. Populations of local areas go up and down.

It is inevitable with the approach proposed that boundaries will continually have to be revised.

So much for the argument that the link between MPs and the local population is paramount.

With Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and more especially London well down the devolution track with more to

come, the functions of Westminster and its size and costs have to be questioned.

We are in sight of Westminster becoming on domestic matters a wholly English Parliament with decisions about Newcastle, Penzance and Dudley all being taken in London or by its agents.

England is too complex for this approach, and an outcome, rather than numbers, alternative is needed.

GEORGE MORRAN,
Tipton Road,
Woodsetton,
Dudley.

Road idea will lead to gridlock

SO Henry Carver of Wolverhampton Business Group wants to end bus lanes in Willenhall Road and Stafford Street in Wolverhampton?

Won't this encourage more cars in the city and create even more gridlock, make public transport less reliable and make the city a less attractive place to visit? An interesting plan to improve business, that.

PHIL TONKS,
Stourbridge.

Waste of cash

TALKING to bus drivers at Stourbridge about our new bus station – it's too small and Birmingham buses will not be able to use it. There is only way in and out. All we needed was to have new shelters, not all the money that is being spent on it.

MISS S J ROBERTS,
Caslon Crescent,
Norton,
Stourbridge.

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Our taxes are sent blowing in the wind

THANKS to green initiatives domestic power bills will rocket by 25 per cent.

Being good Europeans we are the only fools to commit to a reduction in carbon emissions of 30 per cent.

To achieve this outrageously "Huhne-atic" target the Government has decided on yet another punitive stealth tax on our bills.

This is to cover the country with wind turbines that don't work when the wind doesn't blow.

And as we witnessed last week when one exploded in a ball of flames they don't work when the wind does blow.

The only thing they do is make rich landowners who get paid for erecting them on their land a damn site richer at your expense.

GLEN WILSON,
UKIP,
Stourbridge.

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Stourbridge Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial, 51-53
Queen Street, Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

stourbridgechronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Dog owner's actions spoil pleasant walk

FOR the past six months a friend of mine has enjoyed walking her male puppy over a nearby common.

But the walks have recently been spoilt by the thoughtless actions of another dog walker. Someone has persisted in walking their bitch, which is in season, off the lead on the common. My friend has been asked to "call her dog" who is being a "nuisance" to this owner's bitch.

It is irresponsible to walk a bitch which is in season, off the lead in a public place where other male dogs are exercised. Do they not know that male dogs can detect the scent of a bitch in heat over long distances? It is not only unfair to any male dogs, it is also unfair to the bitch and could result in an unwanted pregnancy.

I am sure most dog owners would not dream of walking a bitch off the lead while it is in season but one inconsiderate owner can spoil it for the majority.

JACKIE WORTON,
Snowberry Drive,
Pensnett,
Brierley Hill.

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6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Nativity. (R) 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.15 Nigel Slater's Simple Christmas. (R) 12.15 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 12.30 Keeping Up Appearances. (R) 1.30 Film: The Santa Clause 2. (2002) Disney comedy adventure sequel, starring Tim Allen. 3.05 Film: G-Force. (2009) Premiere. Children's adventure, starring Bill Nighy. 4.30 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 4.50 Winter Wipeout Christmas Special. 5.50 Film: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. (2005) Fantasy adventure, starring Tilda Swinton.

8.00 Merlin. Part two of the Camelot has fallen to Morgana, leaving Arthur a broken man, and Merlin realises only an extraordinary act will restore his master's faith. Last in the series. 8.45 EastEnders. Masood and Zainab try to stop Yusuf's plan. 9.20 Outnumbered. The Brockmans plan to escape the festivities to spend Christmas in the sun – but Grandad ends up in hospital, Karen gets toothache and Ben develops a fascination with knives. 10.00 Lapland. Festive comedy drama, starring Sue Johnston. 11.15 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws. 11.25 BBC News: Weather. 11.45 Midnight Mass from St George's Cathedral Southwark. Led by Archbishop Peter Smith; National Lottery Update. 12.55 Film: At First Sight. (1999) Romantic drama, starring Val Kilmer and Mira Sorvino. 2.55 Weatherview. 3.00 BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.50 Film: Jump In!. (2007) Drama, starring Corbin Bleu. 10.10 Film: Bicentennial Man. (1999) Sci-fi drama, with Robin Williams. 12.10 Film: Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Francisco. (1996) Animal adventure sequel, with the voice of Michael J Fox. 1.35 Pappano's Essential Tosca. 2.35 Tosca from the Royal Opera House. 4.45 Christmas University Challenge. 5.15 Dad's Army. (R) 5.45 Cards from King's. 5.45 ITV News: Weather.

7.00 The John Craven Years. Documentary charting the TV presenter's career, which has spanned 40 years. Featuring interviews with Jon Culshaw, Noel Edmunds and Martin Bell. 8.00 Morecambe and Wise. Memorable moments from the comedy duo's Christmas shows. (R) 9.00 The Many Faces of Les Dawson. Profile of the Manchester-born comedian. 10.00 The Best of Les Dawson. Tribute to the comedian. (R) 10.25 Top of the Pops 2: Christmas Special. (R) 11.55 Blackadder Rides Again. (R) 12.15 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 1.25 Film: Holiday in Handcuffs. (2007) Romantic comedy, starring Melissa Joan Hart and Mario Lopez. 2.50 Close.

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6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 8.15 Film: Tom and Jerry: The Magic Ring. (2002) Premiere. Animated comedy, with the voice of Jeff Bennett. 9.25 Film: Santa Claus: The Movie. (1985) Family fantasy adventure, with Dudley Moore. 11.30 Coronation Street. 1.25 ITV News: Weather. 1.45 Film: The Polar Express. (2004) Animated adventure, with the voice of Tom Hanks. 3.35 Film: ET: The Extra-Terrestrial. (1982) Sci-fi fantasy, with Henry Thomas. 5.05 Film: Scrooge. (1983) Charles Dickens' fantasy, starring Alastair Sim.

6.00 You've Been Framed! Christmas Special. Festive foul-ups. (R) 6.30 The Cube Celebrity Special. With Coronation Street stars Ryan Thomas and Julie Hesmondhalgh. 7.30 Text Santa. Part two of the charity initiative concludes. 10.00 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Donny Osmond. The singer talks about his life and career.

7.00 The John Craven Years. Documentary charting the TV presenter's career, which has spanned 40 years. Featuring interviews with Jon Culshaw, Noel Edmunds and Martin Bell. 8.00 Morecambe and Wise. Memorable moments from the comedy duo's Christmas shows. (R) 9.00 The Many Faces of Les Dawson. Profile of the Manchester-born comedian. 10.00 The Best of Les Dawson. Tribute to the comedian. (R) 10.25 Top of the Pops 2: Christmas Special. (R) 11.55 Father Ted Christmas Special. (R) 12.15 Film: Hairspray. (2007) 9.20 Home for the Holidays. 10.55 Bill Bailey: Dandelion Mind. 11.55 Father Ted Christmas Special. (R) 1.05 Music on 4: Inputoutput. (R) 1.15 Comedy Lab: Kabaddases. 1.45 Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows - T4 Movie Special. (R) 2.00 Cee Lo Takes the UK: Christmas with All the Goodies. (R) 2.10 Film: Ashes of Time Redux. (1994) Wong Kar-Wai's drama, starring Leslie Cheung. 3.45 Southland. 4.30 World War II: The Last Heroes. (R) 5.25 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

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7.15 Film: Garfield. (2004) Family comedy, with the voice of Bill Murray. 8.45 Olive, the Other Reindeer. (R) 9.40 Prep & Landing. (R) 10.10 Film: Charlotte's Web. (2006) Family drama, with the voice of Julia Roberts. 12.00 Film: The Muppet Christmas Carol. (1992) Comedy. 1.30 Cars Toons. 1.35 Film: Mrs Miracle. (2009) 3.25 Film: Meet the Santas. (2005) Fantasy comedy sequel, with Steve Guttenberg. 5.05 Film: Scrooge – A Christmas Carol. (1951) Charles Dickens' fantasy, starring Alastair Sim.

6.00 Milkshake! 10.15 Chef Donald. (R) 10.20 ThunderCats. 10.55 Meerkat Manor. (R) 11.25 Ice Road, Traders: Deadliest Roads. (R) 12.25 Charley Boorman's Extreme Frontiers. (R) 1.30 Cars Toons. 1.35 Film: Mrs Miracle. (2009) 3.25 Film: Meet the Santas. (2005) Fantasy comedy sequel, with Steve Guttenberg. 5.05 Film: Scrooge – A Christmas Carol. (1951) Charles Dickens' fantasy, starring Alastair Sim.

7.00 Eddie Stobart's Christmas Delivery. Festive edition of the documentary series, in which the company's truckers battle winter conditions to ensure shops and councils receive their supply of Christmas trees and salt. 7.55 5 News Weekend. 8.00 The Gadget Show Christmas Eve Special. Suzi Perry investigates 4G communications, Jason Bradbury examines products due to hit the shops in 2012, and Jon Bentley views an advanced helmet designed for fighter-jet pilots.

9.00 Greatest Christmas TV Moments. Countdown of 50 Christmas TV crackers, featuring Gavin & Stacey, Morecambe and Wise, Only Fools and Horses, Wallace and Gromit, Doctor Who, Top of the Pops and The Royle Family.

12.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Great Artists. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. (R) 4.50 Rough Guide to Beaches. 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

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Christmas Day



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6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 The Nativity. (R) **10.00 Christmas Day** Eucharist from Lichfield Cathedral. **11.00 Songs of Praise – Christmas Day Big Sing.** **11.40 Morecambe and Wise.** (R) **12.25 BBC News; Weather.** **12.35 Film:** Kung Fu Panda. (2008) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jack Black. **2.00 Top of the Pops Christmas 2011.** **3.00 The Queen.** **3.10 Film:** Monsters vs Aliens. (2009) Premiere. Animated sci-comedy, with the voice of Reese Witherspoon. **4.35 BBC News; Weather.** **4.50 Film:** Ratatouille. (2007) Premiere. Pixar animated comedy, with the voice of Patton Oswalt.

6.30 The Gruffalo's Child. **7.00 Doctor Who.** The Time Lord helps a wartytime widow and her children realise their dreams. **8.00 Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special 2011.** With Barry McGuigan, Su Pollard, Simon Webbe, Debra Stephenson and Charlie Brooks. **9.00 EastEnders.** Hour-long episode. Masood sets out to bring Kamil home, but Yusel has one more trick to play. Shirley is shocked to discover the identity of Phil's stalker. **10.00 Absolutely Fabulous.** **10.30 Michael McIntyre's Christmas Comedy Roadshow.** **11.30 BBC News; Weather.** **11.45 On Christmas Night.** **11.50 Have I Got a Bit More News for You.** (R)

12.30 The Graham Norton Show Christmas Special. (R) **1.35 Film:** The Hot Chick. (2002) Body-swap comedy, starring Rob Schneider. **3.10 Weatherview.** **3.15 BBC News.**

6.00 CBeebies. **7.10 CBBC.** **9.35 Film:** The Magic Roundabout. (2005) Animated adventure, with the voice of Ian McKellen. **10.50 Film:** The Sword in the Stone. (1963) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Ricky Schroder. **12.10 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.** (R) **2.10 A Musical Nativity** with John Rutter. **3.10 The Prince and the Composer.**

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(R) 4.40 Dad's Army. (R) **5.10 Porridge.** (R) **5.50 The Queen.** Her Majesty's annual address to the nation and the Commonwealth. (R) **6.00 Christmas University Challenge.** The first semi-final of the festive quiz. **6.30 Darcey Bussell Dances Hollywood.** The former Royal Ballet star celebrates classic dance musicals. **8.00 Blackadder the Third.** The new prime minister plots to bankrupt the Prince Regent. (R) **8.30 Blackadder the Third.** Edmund falls foul of Dr Johnson. (R) **9.00 The Toys That Made Christmas.** A look back at playthings of the past. **10.30 James May's Man Lab Xmas Special.** (R) **11.30 Victoria Wood with All the Trimmings.** (R)

12.25 The Many Faces of Les Dawson. (R) **1.25 QI.** (R) **1.55 Film:** Beyond a Reasonable Doubt. (1956) **3.15 Close.**

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25 CITV.** **7.45 Film:** The Borrowers. (1997) Children's fantasy, starring John Goodman. **9.25 Film:** March of the Penguins. (2005) Oscar-winning nature documentary, narrated by Morgan Freeman. **11.00 Film:** Miracle on 34th Street. (1994) Christmas family drama remake, with Richard Attenborough. **1.05 ITV News; Weather.** **1.15 Film:** Aladdin. (1992) Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Robin Williams. **3.00 The Queen.** **3.10 Film:** Happy Feet. (2006) Animated adventure, with the voice of Elijah Wood. **5.20 ITV News; Weather.** **5.30 New You've Been Framed!**

6.00 Emmerdale. Hour-long episode. Amy makes a decision about Kyle's future. **7.00 All Star Family Fortunes Christmas Special.** **8.00 Coronation Street.** **9.00 Downton Abbey.** Violet has concerns about Rosamund's new suitor (guest star Nigella Havers). **11.05 ITV News; Weather.** **11.20 Benidorm.** (R)

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6.10 Film: The Ugly Duckling and Me. (2006) Premiere. Animated comedy, with the voice of Morgan Freeman. **8.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **8.30 Film:** James and the Giant Peach. (1996) Children's fantasy, with Paul Terry. **10.00 Gordon's Christmas Cookalong Live.** **2.00 Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas.** **2.30 The Snowman.** (R) **3.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me.** (R) **4.05 Channel 4 News.** **4.10 4thought.tv.** **4.15 The Alternative Christmas Message.** **4.20 Deal or No Deal:** Deaf Panto. **5.20 Film:** Big. (1988) A boy is magically transported into the body of a 30-year-old man and applies his childlike brain to the problems of adult life. Comedy, starring Tom Hanks and Elizabeth Perkins.

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7.15 FILM: Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs. (2009) Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of John Leguizamo. **9.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special.** With Ruth Jones, David Walliams, Jedward and Steps. **10.00 Rude Tube: Epic Christmas.** Alex Zane presents the 50 greatest festive internet videos. **11.05 So This Is Christmas.**

12.35 The Comedy Annual. Comedians talk about the key moments of 2011. (R) **1.35 Film:** The Towering Inferno. (1974) Disaster movie, starring Paul Newman and Steve McQueen; **ITV News Headlines.** **4.20 Kojak.** (R) **5.15 ITV Nightscreen.** **5.55 ITV Morning News.**

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05 Fifi and the Flowertots.** (R) **6.15 Fireman Sam Christmas Special.** (R) **6.35 Castle Farm.** **6.45 Igam Ogam.** (R) **6.55 Hoobie and Custard Too.** (R) **7.00 The Milkshake! Show.** **7.25 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.35 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.** (R) **7.45 Little Princess.** (R) **8.05 Milkshake! Monkey.** (R) **8.10 Angelina Ballerina.** **8.25 Rupert Bear.** (R) **8.45 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **9.00 Film:** Mist: The Tale of a Sheepdog Puppy. (2006) Live-action animal adventure, featuring the voice of Mel Giedroyc. **10.30 Trainer Horn.** **10.35 Animal Rescue Squad.** (R) **10.55 Andre Rieu's Christmas Spectacular.** **11.55 Ice Road Truckers.** (R) **12.55 Ice Road Truckers.** (R) **1.55 Cars – Unidentified Flying Mater.** (2002) Film: Mrs Miracle 2: Miracle in Manhattan. (2010) Family drama sequel, starring Doris Roberts. **3.45 Film:** Mrs Santa Claus. (1996) Period musical, starring Angela Lansbury. **5.30 Film:** The Santa Suit. (2010) Premiere. Comedy, starring Kevin Sorbo and Jodie Dowdall.

7.25 FILM: The Christmas Card. (2006) Romantic drama, starring John Newton and Alice Evans. **9.05 Eddie Stobart's Christmas Delivery.** Festive edition of the documentary series. (R) **10.00 Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs.** Festive music countdown. **1.00 SuperCasino.** **3.55 Meals in Moments.** (R) **4.05 Nick's Quest.** (R) **4.30 Divine Designs.** (R) **5.00 Hanukkah.** (R) **5.10 The Milkshake! Show.** (R) **5.35 Thomas & Friends.** (R) **5.45 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

ITV2
3.00 The Xtra Factor: Louis' Best and Worst. **4.00 The Xtra Factor:** Tulisa's Best and Worst. **5.00 The Xtra Factor:** Kelly's Best and Worst. **6.00 The Xtra Factor:** Gary's Best and Worst. **7.00 Film:** Jack Frost (1998) **9.00 Film:** The Bourne Supremacy (2004) **11.05 Celebrity Juice:** Christmas Special

ITV3
3.20 Film: Carry On Cowboy (1966) **5.20 Film:** Carry On Cleo (1964) **7.10 Film:** Carry On Camping (1969) **9.00 Film:** Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) **10.55 Film:** Carry On Jack (1963)

ITV4
2.25 Film: Night Passage (1957) **4.15 Film:** Spartacus (1960) **8.00 Film:** The Magnificent Seven Ride! (1972) **10.00 Film:** Rocky (1976) Oscar-winning boxing drama, starring Sylvester Stallone.

BBC THREE
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2011: Not in 3D. **8.00 Film:** Armageddon (1998) **10.20 Russell Howard's Good News Extra 11.05 EastEnders**

BBC FOUR
7.00 Film: El Cid (1961) **9.50 The Johnny Cash TV Show:** Country Gold **10.50 Top of the Pops 1976:** Christmas Day Special **11.40 Top of the Pops 1976 Christmas Special**

E4
2.45 Film: Jingle All the Way (1996) **4.30 Film:** Annie (1982) **7.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.55 Film:** Independence Day (1996) **10.40 The Big Bang Theory 11.40 Tool Academy**

FILM4
3.20 Miracle on 34th Street (1947) 5.10 Ponyo (2008) 7.15 The Ladykillers (1955). A criminal and his gang meet their match when an elderly landlady unknowingly thwarts their attempts to kill her. **Ealing comedy,** with Alec Guinness. **9.00 Juno (2007).** Comedy, starring Ellen Page. **10.50 Watchmen (2009)** Comic-book drama, starring Patrick Wilson.



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Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 CBBC. 9.10 The Gruffalo. (R) 9.35 The Gruffalo's Child. (R) 10.00 Film: The Gruffalo Book 2. (2003) Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of Haley Joel Osment. 11.10 Film: Beverly Hills Chihuahua. (2008) Premiere. Comedy, with the voice of Drew Barrymore. 12.35 BBC News; Weather. 12.45 Regional News; Weather. 12.55 Morecambe and Wise. (R) 2.00 Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special. (2011) (R) 3.00 Film: Wreck-it Ralph. (2012) (R) 4.00 Film: Shrek 2. (2004) Animated adventure sequel, with the voice of Mike Myers. 5.25 BBC News; Weather. 5.35 Regional News. Programmes; Weather. 5.40 Jim'll Fix It with Shane Richie. 6.10 Film: Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa. (2008) 7.30 The Borrowers. 9.30 The Royal Bodyguard. 10.00 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special. 10.30 BBC News; Weather. 10.45 Match of the Day. 12.15 Film: The Guardian. (2006) 2.35 Sign Zone: Holby City. (R) 3.35 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.55 Pixar: 25 Magic Moments. (R) 9.55 Film: Heidi. (2005) Drama; Crime. 10.00 Mystery of the Flamingo. (2009) 12.45 Film: Mansfield Park. (1999) 2.35 Film: Emma. (1996) 4.30 Final Score. 5.10 Film: Becoming Jane. (2006) 7.00 Springwatch Christmas Special. 8.30 Christmas University Challenge. 9.00 Jane Austen: The Unseen Portrait. 10.00 Victoria Wood: Seen on TV. (R) 11.30 Ruth Jones' Christmas Cracker. (R) 12.10 QI. (R) 12.40 Grumpy Guide to Food. 1.10 Film: Cat People. (1942) 12.15 Film: The Guardian. (2006) 2.35 Sign Zone: Holby City. (R) 3.35 BBC News.

ITV1 6.00 CITY: Supernormal. 6.10 SpongeBob SquarePants. (R) 6.20 Horrid Henry. (R) 6.35 Almost Naked Animals. 6.50 Almost Naked Animals. 7.05 Film: Monkeyface. 7.20 Fleabag Monkeyface. 7.35 Monk. (R) 240 Film: The Adventures of Pinocchio. 9.25 Best Ever Christmas Films. (R) 10.25 Goodnight Mister Tom. (R) 12.20 ITV News; Weather. 12.30 Film: Garfield: A Tale of Two Kitties. (2006) 2.00 50 Greatest Harry Potter Moments. (R) 2.30 Film: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. (2004) 2.35 Film: Secret of the Hobbit. (2002) Fantasy adventure sequel, starring Daniel Radcliffe. 6.20 ITV News; Weather. 6.30 Emmerdale. 7.00 The Unforgettable Ernie Wise. 8.00 Coronation Street. 9.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot. 11.00 ITV News; Weather. 11.15 Film: Gladiator. (2000) Oscar-winning Roman epic, starring Russell Crowe; ITV News Headlines. 2.05 Film: Vertigo. (1958) 4.10 ITV Nightscreen. 5.55 ITV Morning News.

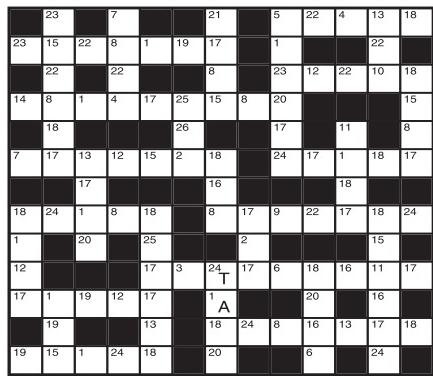
Channel 4 6.20 The Treacle People. (R) 6.30 Film: Benji. (1961) Adventure, with Red Steagall. 8.00 The Bear. (R) 8.30 The Mountain Line. 9.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.25 The Simpsons. (R) 10.55 The Simpsons. (R) 11.25 Film: Bugsy Malone. (1976) 1.15 Channel 4 Racing. 3.40 The Simpsons. (R) 4.10 Deal or No Deal: Part 1. 5.10 Christmas Coach Trip. 5.45 Channel 4 News. 6.00 4thoutv. 6.05 Hollyoaks. 6.35 Come Dine with Me: Christmas Special. 7.05 Film: Home Alone. (1990) Family comedy. 8.00 Film: The Wizard of Oz. (1939) Musical fantasy, starring Judy Garland. 7.05 Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs. (R) 10.00 Film: Dirty Dancing. (1977) Romantic drama, with Patrick Swayze. 12.05 Film: Fragile. (2005) 2.00 SuperCasino. 4.00 Meals in Moments. (R) 4.10 Grey's Anatomy. 4.55 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 House Doctor. (R)

Brain Gym

No.148

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
O	B	S	Y	C	K	R	Z	Q	A	D	N	G
E	V	U	M	X	H	P	W	F	J	I	T	G
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
L	A	S	T	E	N	T	E	N	T	E	N	T

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Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

- One way to welcome me coming back with two more (7)
- See 13 Down
- I'm only disturbed by a maintenance grant (7)
- U.S.A.'s involved with an expensive resort in the West Indies (6)
- One of those service addresses (6)
- Touches electrical points (8)
- An edict about the words of the play (8)
- A box that slides back to reveal the prize (6)
- The craft for a tailor (6)
- See 19 Down
- Make an attack on the price for a load (6)
- State reorganised the French seaport on Elliott Bay (7)

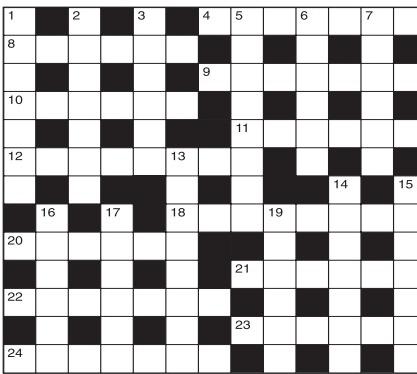
Quick Clues:

Across

- Emulation (7)
- Responds to stimulus (6)
- Frugal (7)
- Alter (6)
- Befoul (6)
- Likely (8)
- Get back (8)
- Self-possession (6)
- Gay (6)
- Make good (7)
- Stature (6)
- Withdraw (7)

Down

- Nutritious food brings about a change in shape (7)
- Willing to see what's not there! (7)
- Beds down among the rocks (6)
- Medical officer gets the girls a sweet concoction (8)
- An observation about a gospeller (6)
- Lacks the ability to sum a string number surrounded by hypocrisy (6)
- The chief directions the high churchman indicates (8,6)
- Those who pose as easy targets (7)
- As far as the tellers are concerned, he's just a beginner (7)
- Reduce the value of French military station (6)
- It is piled on the floor (6)
- & 22 Ac. Presumably no wide-awake criminal is apprehended in this way (6,7)



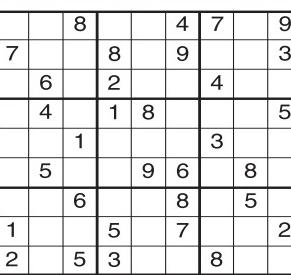
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Mathematics; 9 See; 10 All at once; 11 Inapt; 13 Dallies; 14 Misery; 16 Hymnal; 18 Trainer; 19 Stern; 20 Syndicate; 21 Ass; 22 Progenitors. Down: 2 Aye; 3 Heart; 4 Malady; 5 Totally; 6 Consignee; 7 Astigmatism; 8 Beastliness; 12 Abstainer; 15 Rendering; 17 Ordain; 19 Sheet; 21 Air. QUICK - Across: 1 Hard and fast; 9 Ill; 10 Seductive; 11 Entry; 13 Thinner; 14 Narrow; 16 Entomb; 18 Sadness; 19 Motto; 20 Elevation; 21 Foe; 22 Astronomers. Down: 4 Nudity; 5 Fiction; 6 Sticks out; 7 Hide and seek; 8 Heartbroken; 12 Tiredness; 15 Open air; 17 Assign; 19 Minim; 21 Far.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	6	1	2	7	4	8	9	3
9	2	3	8	5	6	7	1	4
7	4	5	1	9	2	6	3	8
2	8	9	1	3	8	4	6	7
6	4	7	5	9	2	3	1	8
3	1	8	6	7	9	5	2	4
4	7	3	2	6	1	8	9	5
1	7	6	4	5	3	2	8	9
8	3	5	9	2	6	7	4	1



Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
The letter represented by the question mark is M. Halloumi, Parmesan, Scamorza, all types of cheese.



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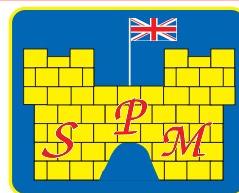
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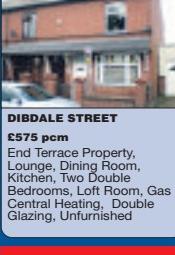
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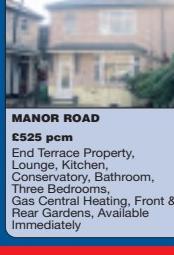
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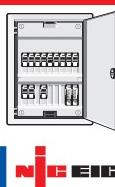
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SPORT**Tividale
rue their
missed
chances**

TIVIDALE were left to rue a succession of missed opportunities – including a missed penalty – as they lost 3-2 in the Midland Alliance at Gresley.

Four goals came in the space of 14 minutes either side of half-time. First the home side took the lead on 32 minutes when Oliver made a good run down the right before supplying Marc Goodfellow.

The lead lasted just four minutes as Russell's dash down the left ended with a cross that was headed past Gutteridge by Jukes.

Then on the stroke of half-time James Jepson found Goodfellow on the left and his low cross was put away by Rob Spencer.

Tividale were level a minute into the second half when a half-clearance from Gutteridge was knocked back into the area to Russell by Adam Hill and he made no mistake with his finish.

Then on 66 minutes came the winner. A long punt from Gutteridge down the middle was laid back from Turville to Goodfellow for a wonderful curling strike from 25 yards into the top corner.

Goodfellow almost completed his hat-trick but his goalbound effort late on was parried for a corner.

**Coaching
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HALAS HAWKS are holding coaching sessions for boys and girls in reception and year one at two separate locations.

On Saturday mornings, budding young footballers can attend Britannia Park, Blackheath, or on Sunday mornings they can go to Windsor High School in Halesowen.

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Only two of the club's junior sides saw their games beat the frost.

The under-14s were beaten 3-1 at Ettingshall.

Hawks fell behind in the first half to a scrambled goal but the second period saw good pressure from Halas and an equaliser through Michael Eaton.

They were hit on the break to go 2-1 down before conceding a killer third.

McDermott enjoying life investing in youth

DARREN McDermott marked a year that changed his life by opening his own amateur boxing club – but it wasn't until he saw Gerald McClellan on television that he appreciated his luck.

The former Midlands and English middleweight champion, who also challenged for the British and Commonwealth titles, saw his career come to a sad end in September last year.

McDermott was in training for a shot at the British super-middleweight title against Paul Smith when a stray blow to the head from Nathan Cleverly, now a WBO world champion, left him in

danger. Brain surgery saved his life but ended his career at 32, leaving a huge void that could only be filled by staying in the sport.

Today, the 33-year-old is content again after opening his own amateur boxing club, Brooklands ABC, named after his house and run from his home gym in the back garden in Woodsetton, Sedgley.

His first five fighters have been cleared and carded and the club already has ABA status, with McDermott regaining the amateur trainer's licence he had from his days at Priory Park ABC.

On Saturday, the "Black Country Bodysnatcher" threw

By Craig Birch

open his doors to welcome friends and family of his fighters, so it's just as well there's a barbecue and pub in the back garden too. That said, the amateurs of Brooklands ABC had better not get used to it – parents are banned from the gym!

McDermott may not be boxing any more but he is still in control of his faculties, able to work for a living and get about as he chooses, leaving him grateful for big mercies. He said a recent TV documentary about Gerald McClellan made him realise just how lucky he

was... He said: "Somebody phoned me straight after the programme and said 'someone was looking after you, Darren, when that happened to you'."

"The things that he was doing in the ring that night, that was exactly how I felt. Like when he was touching his eye as if it was bleeding. When I had bleeding onto my brain, it popped something in my eye. It felt as if there was blood running down the front of my eyeball."

"I kept touching it and looking in the mirror, and there was nothing there, but it looked as if my eye was bleeding. To see him

now and this is me, I have just got to thank my lucky stars."

Now the amateurs of Brooklands ABC represent McDermott's future in boxing. There's no way he won't look after his fighters – after all, the jewel in the crown is his younger brother, Jason.

Cradley's Jacob White and Wednesfield's Dean Taylor, both 16, will be in the ABA Juniors while Sedgley's Jack Griffiths, also 16, and Wolverhampton's Ethan Collins, 14, are works in progress.

McDermott said: "I am getting a buzz from watching these kids. I was looked after, like I think all kids should be."

No treats for Yeltz in trip to seaside

HALESOWEN failed to build on an early lead and fell to a disappointing 3-2 Evo-Stik South Division

One defeat after Chas Hemmings struck a hat-trick for lowly Clevedon.

The afternoon started brightly for the visitors when Nathaniel Caines swung over a left-wing cross and Justin Nisbett was left to head Halesowen into a fifth-minute lead.

Clevedon had produced little until Hemmings bundled home an equaliser from George Brimson's cross in the 18th minute.

As Halesowen's early promise evaporated, Clevedon created the clearer chances. The Seasiders took the lead three minutes before the interval when Hemmings unleashed a screaming 25-yard drive.

At the start of the second half Halesowen had to

replace the injured Evans

and his replacement Simon Flower was kept busy.

Hemmings completed his

hat-trick in the 74th minute

by heading home Brimson's corner.

Yeltz substitute Naveed Arshad curled in a loose ball with six minutes left but it

was not enough.

Comeback success for Wasps

WORDSLEY WASPS Under-9s West came from behind to beat Forest Falcons West with a brilliant 4-2 win.

Captain Skye Sykes pulled one back after Wasps had fallen 2-0 behind and Kai Del Kiffin levelled with the second.

Shane Walker beat two defenders before firing Wordsley in front and Dan Street sealed the victory with a fourth.

The club's two under-11 sides did battle at Wordsley park and it was the West team who defeated the East 1-0. Lewis Kendrick smashed home the only goal.

The under-15s North have transformed their struggling start to the season to go unbeaten in four Division three games after they beat Pensnett Panthers.

Jack Simmer got Wordsley's first and Michael Goulding claimed the

All square after a late Robins strike

DUDLEY TOWN'S rehabilitation as one of the West Midlands Premier League's leading clubs continued with a solid 1-1 draw at third-placed AFC Wulfrunians.

Things might have been even better for The Robins had it not been for a strike by Tom Piggott, son of Town's record goalscorer Gary, just five minutes from time.

After a fortnight's gap since their last league fixture, boss Andy Burgess was forced to tinker with the side that had beaten Wednesfield 2-1 at The Cottage Ground.

Richard Langford's suspension saw Adam Cross brought in while Barry Richards earned a start.

Dudley were quick off the mark and had the ball in the net in the fourth minute when Nikki Faux rounded Danny Tipton.

But the former Black Country Rangers man was denied his first league goal since August when he was adjudged to have been offside from Danny Ludlow's pass.

Wulfs' best chance of the half came on 10 minutes when a rare slip from Jay Trevalen saw the Robins' stopper almost spill a Nathan Rose-Laing shot into his net.

As the half drew on the visitors looked more likely to take the lead and almost did so in a goalmouth scramble when Cross smashed a header against the crossbar.

Faux and Dreniz Bala proved constant threats to the hosts' backline but neither could quite make the breakthrough to give Dudley the half-time lead they deserved. Wulfrunians drew

By Steven Box

themselves back into the game in the second period but like Dudley in the first, could not take advantage of their chances, although Aaron Brown went close with a swirling shot that cleared Trevalen's bar just past the hour mark.

Just as the game looked to be heading towards a goalless stalemate, Dudley struck. A fine free-kick from Ludlow was picked up by the impressive Rob Whitley, who made no mistake in glancing the ball past Tipton for his first league goal in Town colours.

This prodded the hosts into life although Dudley could have doubled their lead with 10 minutes to go when Anthony Cox's fierce shot was parried away by former Hednesford Town keeper Tipton.

Harriers' leading marksman Jamille Matt netted a superb solo goal which prompted a rhapsody from Whitley.

"If you see this in the Premier League or the Champions League, it would be replayed over and over again. It was a quality goal," he added.

Harriers' first-half performance left



Dudley's Dreniz Bala, right, closes down AFC Wulfs' Liam Evans



Town's Nikki Faux heads on. Pictures: Nigel Cliff

Matt finish fires Harriers to win

KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS ended York's 12-game unbeaten run and moved up to sixth in the Blue Square Bet Premier Division.

Delighted assistant manager Gary Whild said: "From the goalkeeper right through to the three subs it was a fantastic effort that was fully worth the three points."

Harriers' leading marksman Jamille Matt netted a superb solo goal which prompted a rhapsody from Whild.

"If you see this in the Premier

League or the Champions League, it

would be replayed over and over again.

It was a quality goal," he added.

Harriers' first-half performance left

York reeling as a Jack Byrne header from a Mickey Demetriou free-kick in the fifth minute settled any nerves for the visitors.

Former Harriers' favourite Matty Blair levelled for the home side, converting Ashley Chambers' centre, but the cheers had hardly subsided before the visitors regained the lead.

Lee Hendrie and Jamille Matt set up Callum Gittings who held off Jon Challinor to drill the ball past Michael Ingham via the inside of the post on 21 minutes.

Matt took centre stage on 33 minutes, dispossessing Jamal Fyfield just inside the York half and surging

powerfully upfield, checking onto his right foot and firing into the net from 18 yards.

The home side won a dubious penalty when the referee's assistant ruled that Luke Jones had handled Chambers' 62nd-minute cross.

But Chambers' spot-kick, low to Tony Breeden's right, was superbly parried.

The Minstermen did score three minutes later when David McGurk was credited with a goal that appeared to deflect off Tom Sharpe.

But Harriers took the win that keeps them on the fringe of the play-offs.

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DK stroll
to victory
despite
absentees

A DUDLEY KINGSWIN-FORD side missing several key players still managed to record a comfortable 37-22 victory at Broadstreet.

The players brought in to cover all played well and the result was never really in doubt. Broadstreet are having a difficult season but they are always tough opposition on their own ground and DK did well to keep focused throughout the game.

They should perhaps have scored at least two more tries and certainly conceded one too many, but injured player coaches Pete Knight and Jon Higgins would have settled for this result at the start.

It was interesting to note that 14 of the DK starting XV all developed through the club's excellent Mini Junior set-up.

Besides Knight and Higgins, DK were also without last week's man of the match Al Francis who was rested but Rich Kelley, James Parkes and Dan Shakespeare were excellent in the DK front row.

Shakespeare was on top of his opposite number throughout and all three were prominent in the loose.

Not to be outdone skipper Ollie Shakespeare had arguably his best game of the season with lots of hard yards completed.

The back row was clinical too, with No 8 Tom Bissell having one of his best games to date with several fine breaks, blockbusting tackles and astute kicking from hand.

In the backs the half backs moved the ball well with Stefan Shillingford, until injured after half time, and Tom Weaver creating constant problems for the overworked Broadstreet defence.

The DK supporters' man of the match, however, was unanimously Duncan Chance as the the winger scored a hat-trick of tries.

Glover fight is upgraded

TIPTON'S Lee Glover has seen his contest with former Prizefighter rival Ian Bailey upgraded to a title fight.

Glover was due to face Bailey in a six-round fight on Tuesday at the Holiday Inn in Birmingham.

But now the Tipton Slasher will take on Bailey in a 10-round fight at Walsall Town Hall on February 25.

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Robins held
Dudley have to settle for a point
Page 27

Happy Harriers
Kidderminster pick up a fine away win
Page 27

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Heathens to start with a Staffordshire clash

DUDLEY HEATHENS have confirmed the prestigious British Under-21 final will be staged at their adopted Wolverhampton home on Tuesday, April 24.

And the club have also agreed to launch the 2012 season with a Staffordshire Cup clash against neighbours Stoke.

Chairman Nigel Pearson said: "Stoke are assembling another superb side following their successful 2011 season and in Ritchie Worrall, Ash Birks and Jamie Pickard they have a powerful spearhead."

"I must admit I was interested in bringing Pickard to our club last season and obvi-

By Tim Hamblin

ously we have the Chris Van Straaten connection as he owns his contract with Wolverhampton.

"But the numbers game really ruled out Jamie coming to us this season but he was tremendous in 2011 for Stoke and I wish him all the best."

"I'm sure we will be in for two superb meetings to open the season and both will be a good test for the respective teams."

"Naturally we would love to win our home meeting and it would be lovely to win

over two legs against a top team like Stoke. We will announce the dates once they are agreed, but every time we take the Heathens to Loomer Road it reminds me of our season there in 1996 when we had Greg Hancock and Billy Hamill spearheading the team."

"The promoters at the time deserve great credit for keeping the Heathens going after the loss of Dudley Wood Stadium, but ultimately the mathematics didn't add up."

"We're delighted to be staging the British Under-21 Final and I would urge all our fans to put Tuesday, April 24 in their diary."

Season tickets won't be valid, though, as this is a British Speedway Promoters' Association shared event."

And on the subject of season tickets, Pearson says sales are up on this time last year. "We had some orders over the weekend which took us past the equivalent stage last season which is a terrific achievement," he said. "I think it underlines the fact that the fans like the look of the team and also believe it's good value for money."

"There will be a marginal increase in ticket prices after December 31 but we feel it's great value for our supporters."

Hackett's side have win and a defeat

THE GLASSBOYS completed an Evo-stik League Southern Premier Division double over Cirencester but they were made to work hard for their 2-1 win.

In the second minute, Aaron Drake rolled a free-kick to Sean Geddes whose 20-yard drive was saved by Town keeper Kevin Sawyer.

A minute later at the other end, a right-wing flag-kick from James Monimmer-Jones was fumbled by Lewis Solly before the ball was cleared to safety.

The home side threatened again when Linden Dovey played the ball forward to John Griffin but his volley dropped wide.

Stourbridge had a let-off when Mitchell Bryant got in behind the home defence and rolled a shot past Solly and wide of the far post.

The Glassboys opened the scoring in the 22nd minute. A long kick forward from Solly caught out the Cirencester defence and Ryan Rowe clinically finished from close range.

The second half was only two minutes old when Ben Reardon levelled for Cirencester with a shot that dipped beyond the reach of Solly.

The home side had to dig deep and, although their play lacked the fluency of the first period, they did have chances.

With 10 minutes left Stourbridge grabbed the winner.

Griffin capitalised on a slip by Jamie Dunn to gain possession and he calmly rounded Sawyer before slotting the ball home.

But the Glassboys followed up this win with a 2-0 loss at Hitchin on Monday.



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'Awesome' cup achievement of under-10s



The lads of Stourbridge under-10s celebrating getting into the semi-finals of the Prima Tiger Cup at Leicester

LEAD coach Richard Walker praised Stourbridge under-10s for an "awesome achievement" after their victory over West Norfolk in rugby's Prima Tiger Cup quarter-finals at Welford Road.

Stourbridge Walker booked a semi-final return to the home of Leicester Tigers in January with a hard-fought 3-1 win over their opponents from Kings Lynn in Norfolk on Saturday.

The players, coaches and support-

ers then watched the Tigers' 23-19 win over French giants Clermont Auvergne in Europe's Heineken Cup.

"It's an awesome achievement from a great group of lads," said Walker. "It is the first time that our club has entered the Prima Tiger Cup."

"To play at Welford Road, the boys were really excited. They had an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of great players and they enjoyed the occasion massively." Stourbridge will

be joined in the semis by Derbyshire side Melbourne, Bury St Edmunds, and cup holders Oakham.

They will be played at Welford Road on the weekend of January 21, before Tigers take on Aironi Rugby in the Heineken Cup.

The Prima Tiger Cup is supported by Loughborough-based Prima Solutions. It is open to under-10s teams nationally and more than 50 clubs entered this year.

the chronicle

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Important announcement for all homeowners

EXTRA DISCOUNTS OFF SALE PRICES AT COUSINS

Cousins Winter Sale starts on Boxing Day at 9am. Be early to take advantage of EXTRA DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SALE PRICES throughout the stores, plus many one-off deals and limited stock availability.

Be early for the best buys, limited stocks!



From left to right:
Edward, Matt, John and Thomas Shotton

Following on from the success of their Stock Clearance Event in November, the directors of Cousins are continuing their strategy of buying-up much of their suppliers' surplus stock, allowing them to offer unprecedented low sale prices, with massive savings of up to 70% right across their fantastic range of brand name furniture, carpets, beds and homewares.

Unprecedented Opportunity

Commenting on the company's strategy, Managing Director, John Shotton said: "As a result of our

financial strength and stability we have been able to bulk purchase a lot of our suppliers' surplus stock that has become surplus due to the High Street sales slump."

Buy with confidence

As one of the UK's leading and most established family-owned furniture retailers, they are built on very solid financial foundations – owning the freehold to all 5 of their expansive sites. Not only does this give their customers the additional peace of mind and confidence when buying from them but it also gives them enormous purchasing power.

Massive reductions

As well as purchasing vast quantities of surplus stock, Cousins have also used this opportunity to negotiate lower ongoing buying prices from their suppliers whether for special one-off customer orders or forward ordered bulk stock deals. Either way this translates into unprecedented extra discounts off all sale prices.

Trusted Brands

Every item throughout the stores has been further reduced with an extra discount off their sale price, including all brand names and the many new collections that have just arrived for 2012.

As you'd expect Cousins' Winter Sale is showcasing many new styles and ideas from the world's leading designers. These collections exude the highest levels of innovation, inspiration and craftsmanship.

True Shopping Experience

Cousins have 3 of the largest destination stores in the UK (Each one over 6 times larger than the average furniture store) allowing them to inspirational display an incomparable number of ranges of furniture and homewares for every room of your home – giving unrivalled choice, quality and value.

Large free car parks, commendable instore restaurants plus their experienced team of expert friendly sales staff make a visit well worthwhile.

Don't just listen to us

The fact that over 60% of Cousins customers are either recommended or repeat purchases and that we regularly deliver to London, Cornwall and the Lake District is true testament to this. Check out the testimonials online where 97% of all customers independently rate our products as good/excellent and 90% our service (Feefo 9th December)

Don't miss out

With limited quantities and many one-off deals, you'll have to hurry though. The Winter Sale starts at 9am on Boxing Day (one hour earlier than usual) and they're expecting it to be one of our busiest days of the year.

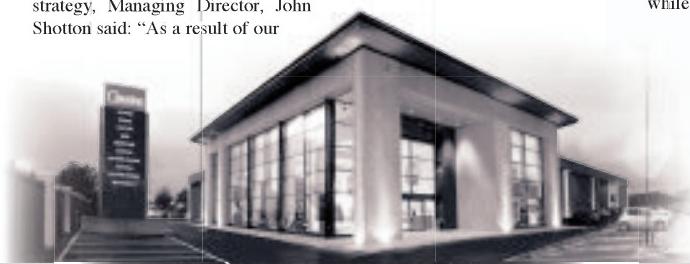
It really will be a case of first-come-first served.



Robert Shotton



**SALE STARTS
BOXING DAY 9AM**



EXTRA DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SALE PRICES BOXING DAY

www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk

the winter sale

STARTS BOXING DAY 9AM

EXTRA DI OFF ALL SA

BE EARLY FOR THE BEST DEALS

Extra Discount Price
£449

Lux 3 seater sofa
NORMAL £899 SALE £449

Extra Discount Price
£449

Otto swivel chair in grade 200 leather
NORMAL £799 SALE £449

Extra Discount Price
£499

Twirl round table and 4 chairs
NORMAL £999 SALE £699

Extra Discount Price
£349

Brazilia 3 seater sofa
NORMAL £899 SALE £349

**Stressless ex-display
swivel recliner chairs**

60% OFF

**Trafalgar 3 seater
and 2 seater sofas**

NORMAL
£1499
SALE
£849
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£779

**Reclining cornergroup
in dark brown easycare fabric**

NORMAL
£1899
SALE
£1299
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£999

**Duresta Waldorf sofas and chairs -
choice of colours**

30% OFF

**Swivel recliner chair
with footstool**

NORMAL
£299
SALE
£199
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£149

**Fama Josephine -
iconic large sofa with accents**

SAVE 30%

**Modern sofabed -
innovative space saving design**

NORMAL
£629
SALE
£349
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£299

**Willis and Gambier
Oak extending table
and 4 chairs**

NORMAL
£1299
SALE
£799
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£599

**Modern high gloss table
and 4 chairs - available in
white or black**

NORMAL
£1399
SALE
£799
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£599

**Alfrank Marble dining
table and 4 chairs**

NORMAL
£1899
SALE
£1299
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£999

**Calligaris Chrome & glass table
and 4 chairs**

NORMAL
£1029
SALE
£899
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£699

**Triumph 4 door large
sideboard**

NORMAL
£499
SALE
£399
**EXTRA DISCOUNT
PRICE**
£299

P A Y N O T H I N G U N T I L S U M M E R - N O

Extra Discount Price
£995

Complete Bedroom

Broadak
(includes Bedstead, Chest, Wardrobe & Bedside cabinet)
NORMAL £1526 SALE £1199

Extra Discount Price
£249

Myers Flexistore double drawer divan
NORMAL £599 SALE £299
MYERS

Extra Discount Price
£499

Ronson 3 seater double reclining sofa
NORMAL £999 SALE £599

Antico

Bentley

Armadillo

Wilkinson

PERVEST

DURESTA

DURESTA

Globe

Harrison

Fama

Wardlaw

PERGO

Interflor

VI-SPRING

Diamond

SCOUNTS ALE PRICES

LIMITED STOCKS AVAILABLE

**EXTRA
discounts
off all sale prices
BOXING DAY**

Extra Discount Price
£299



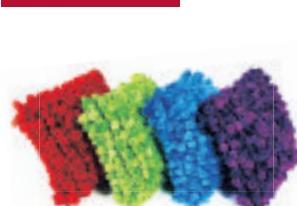
Gamma combination wardrobe
NORMAL £419 SALE £349

Extra Discount Price
£149



Ursula bedstead (includes slats)
NORMAL £499 SALE £249

Extra Discount Price
£29



Pebble cushions - assorted bright colours
NORMAL £44 SALE £99

Extra Discount Price
£799



Collins cornergroup sofa
NORMAL £1499 SALE £949

Nolte Mobel fitted bedrooms -
Free UK delivery and fitting

SAVE 30%

Mattresses -
Large stocks available for
immediate delivery

FROM £49

Silentnight double
drawer divan

**NORMAL £599
SALE £349
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE
£299**

**NORMAL £99
SALE £49
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE
£29**

Sliding wardrobe -
modern design

**NORMAL £599
SALE £399
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE
£379**

Denby - dinnerware
sets, selected designs

SAVE 50%

Lydia leather double bedstead
(including slats)

**NORMAL £599
SALE £299
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE
£249**

Rugs - assorted designs
and colours

SAVE OVER 60 %

Vi Spring ex-showroom pocket
sprung divan sets

SAVE 60%

Columbia twist carpet -
choice of colours

**NORMAL £12m²
SALE £10m²
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE
£6m²**

Slumberland 4 drawer
double divan set

**NORMAL £799
SALE £399
EXTRA DISCOUNT PRICE
£349**

Montgomery's
Ready made curtains

SAVE UP TO 50%

DEPOSIT - INTEREST FREE CREDIT

Extra Discount Price
£399



Woodland extending dining table and 4 chairs
NORMAL £1299 SALE £699

Extra Discount Price
£499



Ashley 3 seater sofa
NORMAL £849 SALE £599

Extra Discount Price
£11.50m²



Lomond twist carpet
NORMAL £23m² SALE £19m²

**Carpets &
Flooring**

WELLS GAMBIER
Furniture designed for life



NATUZZI

COUCHOUTLET



**0%
A P R**

Deferred Interest Free Credit available on all orders over £500. Subject to status.
All balances must be paid in June 2012 on the date specified at the time of purchase.
Written details on request. Offer not available on clearance items or in store concessions.
Some items are subject to one per household and only available in limited colours, or the
colours shown in this advert.

Cousins

beyond expectation

Indulge in comfort for less

A stylish blend of luxury and innovation make Stressless® the world's most comfortable sofas. Everything is designed with your comfort in mind from individually adjustable seats and a choice of high or low backs to the unique comfort features you only find on Stressless® sofas.

- Patented Plus™ system for perfect support in any position.
- Wide range of luxurious leathers, sumptuous fabrics and wood finishes.
- Matching Stressless® recliners for co-ordinated comfort.

Recliners | Sofas | Home Cinema | Ottomans | Occasional Tables



Visit the
new Stressless
Studio in your
local Cousins
store now



EXTRA DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SALE PRICES

BE EARLY FOR THE BEST DEALS - LIMITED STOCKS AVAILABLE

sofas. carpets. curtains. beds. dining. bedroom. homeware

Christmas & New Year Opening Times

Boxing Day Monday 9am - 5pm, Wednesday 9.30am - 6pm, Friday 9.30am - 6pm,
Saturday (New Years Eve) 9.30am - 5.30pm, Sunday (New Years Day) 11am - 5pm
Late Nights: Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am - 8pm.

Birmingham
Warwick Road,
Tyseley. B11 2EW.
T: 0121 765 3300

Dudley
Hall Street
DY2 8NW.
T: 01384 451500

Manchester
A57, Regent Rd,
Salford. M5 4EA.
T: 0161 875 4070

- Free parking
- instore restaurant

celebrating
26
years

Cousins

beyond expectation

www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk